

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Appl. No.:** : 09/965,002                      **Confirmation No.** 2728  
**Applicant:** : Abdelhadi, et. al.  
**Filed:** : September 27, 2001  
**Group Art Unit:** : 2442  
**Examiner:** : Meucci, Michael D.  
**Docket No.** : AUS920010905US1  
**Customer No.** : 40412

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request a continued examination of the present application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(d), and request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in light of the following remarks and amendments:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12.

Note that the Application as originally filed included three independent claims and 36 total claims. As amended, the Application currently includes three independent claims and 36 total claims. Therefore, no additional claim fees are believed to be necessary. If however, additional claim fees are required, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional claim fees to IBM Corporation, Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and the undersigned hereby authorizes the

Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation, Deposit Account No. 09-0447.